

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 5 of the specification, please replace the paragraph under Brief description of the drawings to read as follows:

--The present invention will be understood in greater detail by virtue of the following drawings, taken by way of non-limiting example, in which:

Figure 1 represents the encryption operations

Figure 2 represents the decryption operations

Figure 3 represents an alternative to the encryption method

Figure 4 represents an alternative to the decryption method--